

## Topham's Helpful Hints for Xmas Shoppers.

Gifts of character and value at attractive and inviting prices.

### Willow Sewing Baskets.

Imported, pretty leather tops and handles, silk lined. And upward. **\$1.50**

### Willow Sewing Baskets.

Fitted with all the handy fittings, in pearl and Parisian ivory, leather tops and handles, silk lined. And as high as \$14.50. **\$2.50**

### Jewel Boxes.

Handmade, carved, lined, and fitted for jewelry. And up to \$8.00. **\$4.50**

### Parisian Ivory

Toilet and manicure articles. Brushes, Combs, Mirrors, and all manicure articles. And upward. **50c**

### All-None Buffers.

Most unique and complete. Made in silver, nickel and Parisian ivory. And up to \$6.00. **\$2.00**

### Leather Mats

For tables and lamps, in beautiful embossed leather, circular and oblong. And up to \$2.00. **\$1.00**

### Traveling Clocks

In various colored leather cases, red, blue, green and other shades. And up to \$1.00. **\$1.00**

### TOILET CASES, BILL BOOKS, PURSES, FLASKS, BRUSHES, ETC.

## TOPHAM'S

Headquarters for Gift Leather Goods.

1219 F St. N.W.

See Our Window Display for Other Helpful Hints.

See the Ever-flowing Bottle in Our Window.

### Unique Gift for Xmas

Most any one would appreciate one of these Wicker Demijohns with choice To-Kalon Wine or Liquor.

### QUART DEMIJOHNS

Red or green ribbon around the center, filled with 7-year-old Straight Pennsylvania Rye. Whiskey, for. **\$1.25**

### QUART DEMIJOHNS

Filled with Sherry, Port, Muscatel, Angelica or Sweet Catawba, for. **75c**

### To-Kalon Wine Co.

New Store, 1405 F St. N.W. Phone 88

### ELECTRIC XMAS NOVELTIES.

MINIATURE Incandescent, Colored Nut, Fruit and Flower Lamps for decorating the tree. Wired in strands ready for festooning.

ELECTRIC CHAIRING DISHES, Percussion, Tea Kettles, etc., for the practical giver.

### National Electrical Supply Co.

1323-1329 N. Y. av. Phone M. 6800.

### Highest Class Interior Decorating.

ONE beautiful is an art. We have mastered it. Let us decorate your home and we will make it more beautiful than ever. Won't cost much.

### George Plitt Co., Inc.

Main Showroom, 1124 Conn. av. Workrooms, 1727 7th st. n.w.

### Artistic Lamps for Xmas Gifts.

Make your selection now from this big collection of Artistic Gas, Oil and Electric Lamps. Beautiful Shades to match. Prices are well within reason.

### Geo. Muth & Co.

Formerly Ryne's, 418 7th St.

### WE VOUCH FOR THE PURITY OF OUR CANDIES.

Taffies, 20c lb. (half dozen varieties). Caramels, 30c lb. Chocolates, 40c lb.

### OGRAM'S

DRUG AND GIFT STORE, 13th & Pa. Ave.

### Hand-painted China

An immense collection of beautiful pieces at all prices from 50c up. Each piece of original design. Special orders executed.

### Sherratt's China Art Store

808 THIRTEENTH STREET N.W.

### Every piece different.

### Hand-painted China

An immense collection of beautiful pieces at all prices from 50c up. Each piece of original design. Special orders executed.

### Sherratt's China Art Store

808 THIRTEENTH STREET N.W.

## ARMY'S OUT READY

Unprepared for War, Says Secretary Stimson's Report.

### COST IS FAR TOO HIGH

Widely Scattered Posts One of Faults, He Points Out.

### NEED OF A RESERVE FORCE

Would Create One by Shortening Term of Enlistment—Fifty years at Present Rate.

### Secretary of War Stimson in his annual report says the United States Army is unnecessarily expensive and that it is unprepared for war with a first-class power. He attributes this largely to the fact that the army is "scattered over the country" in too many posts and to a lack of reserve. The army on the peace footing habitually maintained, with miniature companies and troops, he characterizes as ineffective for any serious war service. As to the unpreparedness of the army in artillery and ammunition. Secretary Stimson says that "at the present rate of appropriation it is estimated that it would take more than fifty years to secure a reasonable supply of field artillery guns, carriages and ammunition that would be necessary in the event of war."

The Secretary says that at a conservative estimate the present peace-time rifleman in the United States Army is between two and five times as much as an average first-class power on the continent of Europe. This comparison is made after excluding from consideration the higher pay and better subsistence that American soldiers receive. This fact is given as an illustration of the extravagance of the existing system of wide distribution of the army.

### Army Posts Extravagant.

The army posts as at present located are said to be wholly unfit and to lead to great extravagance. They were originally located in many cases with reference to possible Indian trouble, and few of them are in positions suited to meet the strategic needs of national action or defense. The average number of companies to each of the forty-nine posts is only nine.

### In short, says the Secretary, "we have scattered our army over the country as if it were merely groups of local constabulary instead of a national organization. The result is an army which is extraordinarily expensive to maintain and one whose efficiency for the main purpose of its existence has been nullified so far as geographical location can nullify it. It is true that the small units into which it has thus been subdivided have as a whole maintained excellent records in a remarkable extent."

But for the remote contingency by which a national army must be always judged, namely, the contingency of a war with a first-class power, the army is practically unprepared.

Calling attention to the fact that upward of \$100,000,000 have been spent on existing army posts and that the profit which each post furnishes to neighboring communities is very small, the Secretary says that "it is not possible to see how the country can afford to maintain such a vast number of posts as far as possible these faults of organization."

### Take Cavalry South.

It is also in contemplation to remove the cavalry situated in the far northern posts to the southward, substituting infantry for them. The Texas maneuvers have shown the admirable adaptation of the southwestern states for cavalry training and drill at all seasons, whereas in the far north for many months in the year it is impossible to drill out of doors. The Secretary says the body of highly polished soldiers who are trained in the Great conducted his campaigns has no place in modern society or modern war. Therefore, the improvement of the long term of enlistment and favors the shortening of the present term to less than three years, so as to allow as many men as possible to go through the training of the regular army, while retaining some hold over the discharged soldier by which he can be called to the colors in case of war.

"The army on the peace footing in which we build up and maintain it, with its miniature companies and troops," the Secretary continues, "is ineffective for any serious war service. Not only this, but the losses which are certainly to be placed during the first six months of operation will amount to a very large percentage of the army strength."

### Reserve System Imperative.

"It is therefore absolutely imperative that provision should be made, by an adequate system of regular reserves, to fill up and maintain this first line of defense during the necessary time that must elapse while we are preparing and mobilizing in the shape of our militia and volunteers. If the time with the colors be shortened, say to two years, and the same system of reserves created, I believe that the system could be inaugurated at much less expense than our present establishment."

Secretary Stimson takes a stand with his predecessors, Root, Taft, Wright and Dickinson, in favor of the consolidation of the quartermaster's, subsistence and pay departments into one general supply corps is suggested with the assertion that the immediate result will be the saving of \$500,000 annually.

Mr. Stimson urges that the right of American citizens to be granted the natives of Porto Rico. It is asserted that neither in the United States nor in Porto Rico is there any contentment of statehood as the ultimate form of government in the island.

Congress is urged to express its wishes regarding the disposal of the unemployed frad lands in the Philippines, to increase the limit of indebtedness which may be incurred by the Philippine government for public works from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000, to pass a Philippine naturalization law and to grant pensions to Americans who have served ten years in the islands.

### Governing Canal Zone.

Secretary Stimson recommends that the permanent organization to operate the Panama canal be established on a strictly business basis and not with the idea of uplifting or governing a dependent people. The question of tolls, he believes, should be left to the determination of the President.

American shipping should be granted practically free use of the canal. The interstate commerce commission should extend its jurisdiction over the new transcontinental route through the waterway and regulate rates, thus preventing the great railway interests from exercising control.

The Secretary confirms his preceding declaration in favor of a thorough, impartial test of the system of scientific management at the ordnance factories and arsenals, saying he feels confident that the system will result in bettering the condition of the workmen without any unfavorable effect whatever on them, and that at the same time the government will receive its proper share of the increased efficiency, due to the improved methods of work.

Personally, I should strongly oppose any system which would increase the efficiency of production without starting the results equitably with the employees."

"Lightship 67," by James B. Connolly, a strong story of the sea, in two parts. See next Sunday Magazine.



## WOODWARD & LOTHROP

New York—WASHINGTON—Paris.

We will remain open only the evenings of the last three shopping days this Christmas season.



## WOODWARD & LOTHROP

New York—WASHINGTON—Paris.

Christmas Cards, Booklets and Seals. Also Calendars and Diaries—Main Floor, Eleventh and G Streets.

## Our Helpful Service Means Much to Christmas Shoppers.

Not a weak spot that we know of in the whole organization, and everything arranged with an eye single to the comfort and satisfaction of those who unhesitatingly turn their steps this way without fear of disappointment. The store is rich in the sumptuous and seasonable things that come with Holiday readiness, and every section is satisfyingly complete and brimming full of gift suggestions. Not a department here that is lacking in proper means for meeting Holiday expectations—not a taste, simple or luxurious, that cannot be gratified. The world's best is here for your choosing, and at fairest prices.

We advise morning shopping to avoid the afternoon rush.

## Fine Silk Stockings== Beautiful Gifts for Women.

SILK HOSIERY is essential to the gift list, and also most necessary to the wardrobe of the fashionably attired woman. Its appropriateness is unquestioned, and if chosen from its no doubt exists in the mind of the recipient of its high quality.

Those seeking novelty effects and out-of-the-ordinary designs will find much to interest them in our extensive lines, which are claiming more than the usual amount of interest.

Black Silk Hosiery, from the best American and French makers, embroidered in self colors and in a great diversity of handsome shades. The designs include clocked effects, conventional and floral designs. New and distinctive styles in which every consideration has been given to varying tastes.

**\$1.65 to \$10.00 pair.**

Pure Thread Silk Hose, with double silk tops and either cotton or silk soles; all the various plain shades are represented. **90c to \$3.00 pair.**

Two-tone Silk Hose—the newest novelty, and one of characteristic distinctiveness—in combinations of black-and-white, black-and-blue and black-and-red. Both plain and embroidered styles. **\$1.75, \$4.50 and \$6.00 pair.**

Special—We have just received and offer at especially low prices for the quality represented, to dozen Women's Imported Black Silk Hose, in several styles, lace ankle and exquisitely hand-embroidered in self colors. A most favorable opportunity for the gift seeker. **\$5.00 and \$7.50 pair.**

**Values, \$8.00 and \$10.00.**

Main floor, F st.

## The Famous "Comfy" Felt Footwear Excellent for Gifts.

THE makers of this Footwear take especial pride in its practical comfort, the actual beneficial service it renders to every wearer and its beauty and attractiveness of design.

Our extensive assortments are in complete readiness for every Christmas need, and include Eureka, Romeos, Moccasins, Slippers, etc., of varying styles and designs for women, misses and girls and also for men and boys.

Despite their many excellent features of quality the prices are as low as any one could expect.

Women's Comfy Felt Eureka, cut high to protect the ankle, with padded soles and spring heels; colors, pink, cream, lavender and light blue. Pair. **\$2.00**

Women's Comfy Felt Romeos, tops richly bound with fur, soles of belting leather; light blue and low heels; all standard colors. Pair. **\$1.50**

Women's Peerless Comfy Felt Moccasins; for comfort and beauty this style cannot be equalled. Made of a special grade of comfy felt, with noisless wood-padded soles and spring heels; richly trimmed around tops; all staple colors. Pair. **\$1.50**

Women's Comfy Felt Tailor-made Moccasins, with noisless padded soles and spring heels; all standard colors. Pair. **\$1.00**

Misses' and Children's Tailor-made Moccasins, with noisless padded soles and spring heels; all standard colors. Pair. **75c and \$1.00**

Third floor, G st.

## Christmas Dress Patterns of Dainty New Cotton Fabrics.

BEAUTIFUL New Cotton Fabrics of standard elegance as well as the latest 1912 novelty designs are now shown in a wide range of dress patterns for Christmas gifts. The assortment consists of Percales, Gingham, Lawns, Near-silk Foulards, Costume Chiffons, Tussah Jacquard, Printed Dimity, Printed Raye and other sheer weaves of suitable texture.

They are cut in dress lengths, and carefully boxed for presentation.

8 yards Percale.....\$1.00  
10 yards Percale.....\$1.25  
10 yards Gingham.....\$1.25  
10 yards Gingham.....\$1.50  
12 yards Gingham.....\$1.50  
10 yards Near-silk Foulard.....\$1.50

10 yards Linette.....\$1.80  
10 yards Poplin.....\$2.50  
10 yards Costume Chiffon.....\$2.50  
10 yards Tussah Jacquard.....\$3.80  
10 yards Printed Raye.....\$2.50  
10 yards Striped Chiffon.....\$2.90  
10 yards Jacquard Chiffon.....\$2.90

**Beautiful New Embroidered Waist Patterns.**

To meet the holiday demand we have secured a large assortment of Beautiful New Embroidered Waist Patterns, in many designs and colorings, including light blue, electric blue, navy blue, brown, apricot, pink, champagne, lavender, old rose, tan and black. **\$1.00 the pattern.**

**A WORTHY GIFT SUGGESTION: Fancy Screens.**

THE gift selection often turns to something for the home, and Fancy Screens are among the choicest and most acceptable things that could be chosen. Their varied usefulness is a highly commendable feature for consideration, and they are now made in so many handsome designs and beautiful artistic effects that every one's idea may be gratified.

Woods represent the finest, all thoroughly seasoned and so used as to produce the greatest degree of artistry. Included are mission and light oak, forest green silver maple and mahogany, with fillings of various materials, in all shades, many with top panels of tapestry in quaint French designs.

**Fire Screens, \$2.50 to \$15.00 each.**  
**Three and Four-fold Screens, \$2.00 to \$30.00 each.**

Worthy of especial mention is the showing of Handsome Japanese Lacquered and Embroidered Screens, exclusive one-of-a-kind designs in the most distinctive effects. **\$3.00 to \$75.00 each.**

Second floor, Eleventh st.

## December Reductions and Special Sales in WOMEN'S FINE OUTER APPAREL—

DRESSES, TAILORED SUITS, SEPARATE COATS, SILK, CHIFFON AND LINEN WAISTS.

EVERY garment is of absolutely the highest character in quality, style and workmanship. The low prices now available are due to the regrouping of several incomplete lines, and the securing of special concessions from makers—some of them producing the garments especially for us, and according to our demands in style.

The assortments and values have been added to in many instances since last week, greatly increasing their attractiveness.

**Fine Tailored Suits at \$25.00.**

**Values up to \$37.50.**

Quality—this feature stands out so strongly in every suit in the assortment that we wish to emphasize it with all force. Equal carefulness has been exercised in the choosing of the lining and the inner parts as in the fabrics and tailoring. There is quite a variety of models, of all-wool fancy mixtures, homespun, mannish suitings and invisible striped serges.

Mostly one-of-a-style suits that have been taken from our own selections. The coats have hand-turned collars, and are fully lined with Skinner's satin; the skirts are in the most attractive styles.

Graceful, stylish, well fitting garments, in sizes for women and misses.

**Separate Long Coats at \$25.00.**

**Regularly \$35.00 and \$37.50.**

Beautiful Broadcloths, Diagonal Serges and Pebble Cheviots are the fabrics represented—and they are the finest we have ever seen in garments at this low price. Shown in five of the newest and most popular models, and in blue and black shades. They have large shawl collars, some entirely of velours, others mostly of velour with enough of self-material to give a rich and distinctive design. Some are trimmed with fancy silk braid.

They are made on the new straight and slightly semi-fitting lines so smart and fashionable at the present time. The high standard of tailoring and workmanship is also very notable, and each coat is completely lined with guaranteed satin. All sizes for women and misses.

**Day and Evening Dresses at \$17.75.**

**A Very Exceptional Value.**

The unusualness of this offering and the excellence as well may be judged from the fact that every dress included was made to sell at \$30.00 to \$37.50, but by taking advantage of a proposition made to us by the maker, we are able to place them on sale at the low price of \$17.75.

**Dresses for Street and General Wear**

Of crepe meteor, crepe de chine, messaline, corduroy, serge and velveteen, in excellent styles and shades—black, navy and light blue, purple and others equally desirable. The styles are those for which the demand has been most.

**Afternoon and Evening Dresses**

Made in very beautiful styles of chiffons and marisettes, in exquisitely dainty Persian colorings and various border effects; slashed and overpadded modes and elegant empire models are shown.

**Small Lots of Dresses Have Been Reduced as Follows:**

Women's and Misses' Dresses, of serge, net and messaline; well trimmed or plain tailored models. **\$10.75 each.**

Values up to \$18.75.

**Women's Silk Waists at \$3.95.**

Values, \$5, \$6 and \$7.50. There are just one hundred waists in this group, and they represent the "house samples" of a prominent manufacturer—that is, garments used by him for taking orders, and, consequently, represent the best skill and taste of the maker. They are fashioned of taffeta, messaline, crepe meteor, nets, crepe de chine, in black and colors; colored striped taffeta and plaid messaline. One of the best values of the season.

**"King" Tailored Linen Waists, \$1.95.**

Values, \$3.00, \$4.50 and \$5.00. Such values as this sale affords are all the more desirable at this time, when so many waists are being bought for Christmas presents. And the certainty every woman feels in the continued popularity of tailored waists also gives strength to the offering.

Besides the well known "King" Tailored Waists, which can be had here only in Washington, there is included another make comparing most favorably in quality, style and workmanship. Plain tailored, tucked and handsomely hand-embroidered styles. Sizes 34 to 46.

Third floor, G st.

## French Hand-embroidered Baby Dress Patterns.

THE advantage in price which was ours in securing these Beautiful French Hand-embroidered Dress Patterns is now extended to our patrons, providing them with the opportunity to select them at much less than ordinarily.

Made of fine nainsook, and embroidered in small spray patterns, in eyelet, panel and all-around designs; yokes attached. These dresses are partly made, and may be easily completed.

**Excellent for Xmas Gifts.**

Special attention is asked to a showing of Exquisitely Hand-embroidered Separate Yokes, put up in boxes, two different patterns in each box; exceptionally desirable gifts. **\$1.00 the box.**

Third floor, G st.

## Suits and Overcoats Are Excellent Gifts for a Man.

CHRISTMAS cheer and good clothes go together, and we are showing a generous variety of good clothes for Christmas giving. Chief among them is a new assortment of Suits and Overcoats made for us by

Hart Schaffner & Marx and other reputable makers, and representing the utmost in intrinsic merit, fine workmanship and values. Suits of every worthy style are shown, of all the best fabrics in a choice selection of weaves and colors—every one exactly right—nothing of a radical nature or of incorrect form. Overcoats, masterpieces of style, quality and values; ulsters with convertible collars, storm coats and motor coats; raglans, slip-ons and raincoats; dress overcoats, box and form fitting.

**Two groups, Suits and Overcoats—**

**\$20.00 and \$25.00 each.** Men's Fur-lined Overcoats—representing the workmanship of the most skilled tailors in America. Perfectly designed shells of the finest broadcloth, lined with natural muskrat, marmot, genet, finished with Persian lamb and natural muskrat collars.

**\$50.00 to \$125.00 each.** Full Dress and Tuxedo Vests, Special value at \$3.50. Others at \$2.50 to \$6.00. Others at \$1.50 to \$5.00.

Main floor, Tenth st.

## Christmas Gifts for Men.

### NECKWEAR.

Everything that is new and distinctly high class. New designs that cannot be secured elsewhere are particularly prominent, and this is a characteristic that gives distinction throughout our assortments, and for which we have become noted. The man who receives neckwear with our name on it realizes at once its excellence.

Worthy of your fullest interest is the collection we have provided at the popular gift price of **50c.**

Knitted Ties, in a great variety of handsome plain and striped patterns and colorings. **50c to \$3.00 each.**

**Mufflers, Scarfs and Dress Shields.**

Knitted Mufflers—cotton, wool and mercerized, in a full range of sizes. **50c to \$2.50 each.**

**Suspenders.**

All the staple kinds, in regular and extra lengths; also novelties in the fancy effects, with silver or gold mountings, each pair in fancy Christmas box. **50c and \$1.00 pair.**

Combination sets of Suspenders, Garters and Arm Bands to match; good elastic; attractive colorings; each set in fancy box. **50c, \$1.00 and \$1.50 each.**

**Combination Sets Distinctly New.**

Ideal gifts that have a strong appeal in their newness and attractiveness, and that are most conveniently priced.

Combination Sets, consisting of silk tie, handkerchief and hose to match, in all popular plain colors.